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August 26, 1996

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CRUZ PROMOTED

CHARLESTON -- Capt. Albert Cruz, former assistant professor of military science at Eastern Illinois University, was promoted to major during a recent ceremony.

Col. G.A. Lowe presided over the swearing in ceremony at Fort Knox, Ky. Participating in the pinning were Maj. Cruz' wife, Melissa, who recently earned a master's degree in family and consumer sciences from Eastern; daughter, Candice Rebecca; father, Ernesto Cruz, retired Army first sergeant, and mother, Delia Cruz, of Elizabethtown, Ky.; and in-laws, Bill and Carolyn Miller of Bradenburg, Ky.

Cruz joined Eastern's military science department in 1994. He was the Cadet Command, 2nd Region (ROTC) Instructor of the Year, for the 1994-95 school year.

His Army officer career spans 11 years and has included assignments at Fort Bragg, N.C.; Huntsville, Ala.; Mainz, Germany; and Zweibrucken, Germany.

He is spending the next year in Saudi Arabia as a logistics advisor to the Saudi National Guard.

Cruz earned a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of

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Kentucky where he participated in the ROTC early commissioning program.

He enlisted in the Army in 1975 after graduating from high school and completed basic and advanced individual training at Fort Knox. He then spent three years as a tank commander in Kirchgoens, Germany.

Cruz and his family have relocated to Brandenburg, Ky.